

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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O R 211213Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3848

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4768

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: OTELO AND MELO ANTUNES REACH AGREEMENT

REF: LISBON 4767 DTG 211203Z AUG 75

1. PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES MET INTO THE EARLY MORNING HOURS AUGUST 21 WITH GENERAL OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO AND MAJ. MELO ANTUNES AND MEMBERS OF HIS GROUP OF NINE. OTELO AND MELO ANTUNES REPORTEDLY HANDED THE PRESIDENT A PROPOSED POLITICAL PROGRAM COMBINING ELEMENTS OF THE ORIGINAL MELO ANTUNES MANIFESTO WITH PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY COPCON OFFICERS.

2. COMMENT: WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE PRESIDENT'S REACTION TO THE NEW OTELO-MELO ANTUNES PROPOSALS OR WHETHER, AS EXPECTED, CONFIDENTIAL

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THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY A DEMAND FOR GONCALVES' OUSTER. WE

NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT EARLY IN DAY AUGUST 20, AT INSTALLATION CEREMONIES FOR NEW SECRETARIES OF STATE, PRESIDENT POINTEDLY REMARKED THAT FIFTH GOVERNMENT'S TENURE MIGHT BE LIMITED TO MATTER DAYS. ALTHOUGH OTELO AND MELO ANTUNES HAVE APPARENTLY REACHED A TACTICAL AGREEMENT, BASIC DIFFERENCE IN THEIR POINTS OF VIEW REMAIN. SEE REFTEL FOR DISCUSSION OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE MELO ANTUNES MANIFESTO AND THE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY COPCON OFFICERS.
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